

GMA begins quarantine at Asian Hospital in Muntinlupa City

Mancao: Accused now under witness protection program

9-day healing Mass will be held for Cory Aquino starting today, July 1, to July 9 at chapel in Greenbelt 5, Makati

Inquirer.net launches special section on Politics

INQUIRER.NET, THE ONLINE NEWS website of the Philippine Daily Inquirer, has launched Inquirer Politics in an effort to help online readers come to terms with the 2010 elections.

"Inquirer Politics symbolizes the commitment of Inquirer.net, the Philippine Daily Inquirer, and the rest of the Inquirer Group of Companies to reach out to INQUIRER.NET A17



Wednesday, July 1, 2010

4+ 5 sections / Vol. 24 / No. 203 P18 inquirer www.inquirer.net



TIMEAFTER TIME A 54-page issue of Time is dedicated to Michael Jackson. Mourning for the King of Pop continues around the world five days after his sudden death. A17

'P500-M demand did it'

This broke automated poll deal, says solon

By Gil C. Cabanagjan Jr.

"IF YOU GIVE ME A HALF A billion pesos, all of these problems will be solved."

This was what the head of Total Information Management Corp. (TIM) had demanded in just, but which its partner, Smartmatic International Corp., took seriously. Makati Rep. Trouder Loris said in an interview with the Inquirer yesterday.

Loris, incumbent of the Manila assembly seat, said he was informed by TIM president Jose Mari Aranaso to Smartmatic lawyers during recent negotiations at Peninsula Manila Hotel that put in jeopardy their P7.2-billion election automation deal with the Commission on Elections.

"Of course, they took this as a joke but lawyers do not laugh about such things. They took it as a deal breaker. The lawyers thought this was tantamount to extortion," said Loris, who based his account on his conversation with Aranaso's lawyers.

Although he could not pin down what motivated TIM to play hardball with Smartmatic, Loris refused that "this is an orchestrated move to subvert the elections."

PHILIP DERRIGO/A1



BY LAND, SEA AND AIR Interior Secretary Ricardo Puno takes to water like a politician on the campaign trail. Refreshingly open about Navis presidential ambitions, Puno has been to Mindanao six times in two months. In Zamboanga City, he now goes around in a convoy of cars with sirens screaming. His image on tarpaulin posters is up along the major streets. With Mayor Coco Labangal (in white), Puno enjoys a ride on one of 11 motorized wooden pump boats. (Story on Page B14)

Pinay killed in Yemeni plane crash

DEAKELID, COMOROS—A **PHILIPINO** was among the members of the crew of the Yemenia jet carrying 153 people on a flight from Sana'a to the Comoros islands that crashed into the Indian Ocean in bad weather early Tuesday.

The plane, en route to the Philippines (Manila) in Riyadh, which has jurisdiction over Filipinos in Yemen, according to the Department of Foreign Affairs in Manila. The DFA said the flight was a regular flight. However, his name was not immediately available, however.

South Korea rescued a child from the sea, Yemen officials said, but there was no other survivor.

The Yemeni Airbus 330 was flying the last leg of a journey from Paris and PHILIP KILLER/A17

Swine flu spread traced to air travel from Mexico

ATLANTA—IN A REMARKABLE MEASURE of just how widely a new disease can spread, researchers accurately plotted swine flu's course around the world by tracking air travel from Mexico.

The research was based on an analysis of flight data from March and April last year, which showed 2.3 million people flew from Mexico to 1,818 cities worldwide.

Researchers said patterns of departures from Mexico in those months varied little from year to year, twice the number in March and April this year.

Passengers traveled to 164 countries, but more than 90 percent of those went to the United States. That fit with the path of the epidemic, a just PHILIP KILLER/A17

Comelec: Iron out differences by Friday

By Kristine L. Alave

WHETHER IT'S GOING TO BE A REAL meeting, or one of compromise, or at all, the union must proceed for the sake of next year's election automation.

The Commission on Elections (Comelec) yesterday ordered the two companies to the commission that was the

holding to compete for the bidding to iron out differences and come to an agreement by Friday as a last-ditch attempt to salvage the project.

Comelec Chair Jose Melo called executives of Total Information Management Corp. and Smartmatic International to a closed-door meeting a day after TIM president Jose Mari Aranaso

said the poll body it was pulling out of the partnership over "irreconcilable differences."

Officials said the remarkable breaking that raised the possibility of a manual instead of an automated balloting in 2010 was prompted by disagreements on who should control the purse in the COMELEC/A17

Malacañang plays it cool but senators hopping mad

By the Inquirer Staff

IT PAIRS TO BE COOL.

After insisting that it would not settle for anything less than a fully automated 2010 election, Malacañang was unexpectedly calm yesterday in the face of the strong possibility that bid-

ding would be conducted manually.

Press Secretary Gringo Arana said the Palace would not even call for an investigation into why Total Information Management Corp. (TIM), the local partner in the consortium that won the Commission on Elections (Comelec) bidding for the project, had

gulled out of its contract with Smartmatic International.

"If we do that, we would be helping into the perpetuation of an independent, nonpartisan commission," he said.

Arana said the Palace would just appeal to the two companies' sense of

patience and social concern.

He reiterated that President Manobo Arroyo—who is besieged with rumors that she would run for a congressional seat to eventually become prime minister under a parliamentary government—was "ready for MALACAÑANG/A17

TIM execs fear Smartmatic has too much power

By Doris C. Dumlao

LOCAL IT PROVIDER TOTAL INFORMATION Management Corp. (TIM) is locked out of a joint venture for election automation, leaving the deal open to foreign partner unbridled power that could lead to potential abuse, according to an industry source close to TIM.

Under the contract between TIM and Smartmatic International Corp., the TIM/SMART/A17

Bernard Madoff gets 150 years in prison for 'extraordinary evil'



Wall Street crook to earn pennies as prison cook, janitor

NEW YORK—FROM RUBBISH ISLANS with millions to sharing a prison yard with drug dealers and gangsters, Bernard Madoff's life is about to change drastically.

WALL STREET/A17

NEW YORK—A FEDERAL JUDGE rejected Bernard Madoff's plea for 30 years on Monday, sentencing the 71-year-old swindler to spend the rest of his life in prison for an "extraordinarily evil" fraud that took a staggering toll on thousands of victims.

US District Judge Denney Chin cited the unprecedented nature of the multi-billion-dollar fraud as he sentenced Madoff to the maximum of 150 years in prison, a term comparable only to those given in the past to terrorists, stalkers and the most heinous criminals.

As there is no parole in federal prison, Madoff will most likely die there.

"Here, the message must be sent BERNARD/A17

Reformists set primaries to find 'nontrapos'

By Nika Catherine Celis

A COALITION OF REFORM-MINDED organizations and individuals yesterday launched what it called the "People's Primaries," a system wherein 18 million voters would vote up with a slate of constitutional candidates for public office in the 2010 elections.

The Movement for Good Governance (MGGG) presented the mechanism of setting up the People's Primaries to some 90 leaders of national organizations at the Asian Institute of Management Conference Center in Makati City.

Spokesperson Ricky Xavier said that REFORMISTS/A17



FASHION STATEMENT And the message is this: London, or better yet, wear it like this: one and a half million all dressed up in London from head to foot, displayed at a restaurant in Bangkok on Tuesday during an anti-AIDS campaign. Thailand has one of the world's most effective anti-AIDS programs. This dramatic disease-free campaign in 1991 as a disease that destroys immune cells. Twenty-five million have died of AIDS and an estimated 33 million people have HIV. A17

HK's graft-buster has new ideas for RP

By Christine V. Esguerra

IS YET ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO ERADICATE corruption in the Philippines, Hong Kong's watchdog crusader Terry Kwok has come up with a fresh idea—develop "top priority integrity managers."

Kwok, who headed Hong Kong's Independent Commission Against Corruption and at one time made anti-corruption headlines in Manila and Europe, made the proposal during evening talks with the latter's Hong Kong on Monday.

"Mr Kwok proposed that the Philippines be the first to adopt this kind of program, especially since we have proven to be more resilient in the recent global economic crisis," Press Secretary Cezar Lacremade said.

Lacremade said the integrity managers

would be trained in both the government and the private sector.

He said Kwok was sworn in by the Manila in a search to discuss details of his proposed anti-graft strategy. Kwok, former President, Anti-Corruption Commission Chair, Comptroller of Finance and Director of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

"The best step will be to involve corporate governments," Lacremade said. "There will be a training program for top priority integrity managers for the private sector and the commission of the integrity managers in various government agencies."

Kwok said to advise Mr. Arroyo on how to fight corruption in government. Recently, after Kwok's visit to the Philippines, Mr. Arroyo, last headlined last August Arroyo

and some members of her inner circle were implicated in some of the biggest corruption scandals in the country. These included the \$129-million NBN-CTV broadband deal and \$700-million developer land sales.

Now a consultant for the Philippine Overseas Investment Bank, Kwok "boosted" the agency's improved corruption score, which rose up to 75 to 80 percent from a "very low 19 to 25 percent" before he came in, Lacremade said.

Kwok, Hong Kong's top anti-graft watchdog, has the last stop in Manila's 11-day stop that also took her to Japan, Colombia and Brazil. She arrived in Manila Monday night.



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Tagbilaran City

For A Time Such As This

The Little City With Big Dreams



43

years as a Country City

One of Eight (8) "PHILIPPINE DREAM CITIES" according to the Institute for Solidarity in Asia (ISA)

One of the Philippines' Twenty (20) "Most Competitive Cities" and "Prize Cities on the Rise" of the Asian Institute of Management Policy Center. No. 1 in Quality of Life For Small Cities



ATTY. NAN NEN LIAN
City Mayor

MESSAGE

The spotlight on the Tagbilaran City has gone on for years. It's no surprise to find so many friends. Tagbilaran has created but more products to become one of the best in the world.

The Institute for Solidarity in Asia and the Asian Institute of Management Policy Center have said they say. The Institute for Solidarity in Asia is a quality of life award given to the country.

Tagbilaran has been the best. Quality of life is what matters. Since 2004, the Institute is giving awards to the top 20 most competitive cities in the world. The award is given to the city that has the highest quality of life in the world.

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There are many reasons why Tagbilaran is so successful. There is no doubt that the city is a success story. There are many reasons why Tagbilaran is so successful. There is no doubt that the city is a success story.

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We Honor

RAJINA BARTOLA BARTOLAN, DOLORES UY YAP, Mothers of the Year! **ONG GUST** Father of the Year! **RICARDO BRITO**, **JUAN APOSTOL**, **KO RUBI BRITO**, New Investors! **FREDERICK ONG**, **MARLITO UY**, Business Translators! **MARIANO UY**, Outstanding Community Service! **MARK E. SCHOFF**, Faithful Supporter of the City! **NORMIE DELAM**, Civic Leadership! **VERONICA ACERO**, **TERESITA RIGI**, Outstanding Career in Civil Service! **FARID CABALUT**, **REYNALDO CALABANGA**, **ANTONIO PORTICOS**, **WALTER TOSTON**, **ROSEMARIE PALMA**, **FRANCIS CASTOLDI**, Dedication and Efficiency in Public Service! **WARREN YAP, JR.**, CPA, Good Topographer! **KURT ADOLPH BUNENACK**, Successful Sea-Porter While in Public Service! **AUGUSTO UNGAR**, Most Lungsman!

Aiming for the moon

Tagbilaran City Meets to virtually aiming for the moon these days.

It's no surprise to find so many friends. Tagbilaran has created but more products to become one of the best in the world.

Pro-People Priority Programs

- EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT**
Integrating the Modern Intelligence Theory of Dr. Howard Gardner in all 20 City Care Centers
- FULL SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION**
Free uniforms, including pair of shoes, school bags, school supplies, uniforms and uniforms for all 4,500 pupils in all public elementary schools.
Tuition-Free Scholarships for Outstanding College Students
- BLUE CARD PROGRAM**
Free hospitalization in the event of the city residents with last priority effort hospitalization program.
- BUTNA SA KATUNHAN**
Free hospitalization in the event of the city residents with last priority effort hospitalization program.
- CONCERN FOR SENIOR CITIZENS**
Free meals on scheduled days and birthday cakes in addition to other privileges in 4,000 registered senior citizens who work in need of them.
- DAILY INTERACTION WITH CITIZENS**
At least once 200 different point points in all 14 wards.
- PURK HEALTH WORKERS AND TANCOS HANDS ON**
Health health and safety and other concerns are addressed in priority in the point order into the completed ones for completed authority to address.

Infrastructure Projects

- CITY SQUARE COMPLETION PROJECT**
Completion of the old Plaza structure that will be transformed in 10 years that was a source of embarrassment to the city but now represents a source of pride.
- CALABANGA STREET ROAD CONCRETING PROJECT**
Completion of Calabang Street to improve traffic flow.
- ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN THE BARANGAYS**
Improvement of the road network in the different barangays of the City.
- STREET LIGHTING PROJECT**
Installation of street lights in different barangays to improve safety.
- UPGRADING THE CITY WATERWORKS DISTRICT**
Improvement of the water supply system to improve the quality of water.
- PEACE AND ORDER APPARATUS**
Improvement of the police and other law enforcement agencies to improve public safety.

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| ATTY. NAN NEN LIAN Mayor | EDDY BARTOLA Vice Mayor | EDDY BARTOLA Vice Mayor | EDDY BARTOLA Vice Mayor | EDDY BARTOLA Vice Mayor | EDDY BARTOLA Vice Mayor | EDDY BARTOLA Vice Mayor | EDDY BARTOLA Vice Mayor | EDDY BARTOLA Vice Mayor | EDDY BARTOLA Vice Mayor | EDDY BARTOLA Vice Mayor | EDDY BARTOLA Vice Mayor | EDDY BARTOLA Vice Mayor | EDDY BARTOLA Vice Mayor | EDDY BARTOLA Vice Mayor |
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The City of Tagbilaran Fast Facts

- Location**
Tagbilaran is the capital and a prominent city of the island province of Zamboanga. It is situated some 120 kilometers southeast of Manila and 120 kilometers south of Cebu City. Tagbilaran lies on the southern coast of the province, and has a total land area of 3,270 hectares, including about 200 hectares of water.
- Area**
The city has an area of 3,270 hectares, including about 200 hectares of water.
- Population**
The city has a population of 120,000 people.
- History**
The city was founded in 1565 by the Spanish.
- Government**
The city is governed by the Mayor and the City Council.

Planning today.

Securing tomorrow.

Future joys depend on what you're able to do today.

APR 15, 2010 - Citi's new CD Savings Plus account has a variable APY of 4.75% p.a.*

4.75%_{p.a.}*

You're planning for weeks, months or years. Today is the day.

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A Citi Savings Plus account is better than a regular time deposit!

- Earns a high interest rate of 4.75% p.a., without a fixed term
- Withdraw your funds anytime, anywhere when you need it, with no pre-termination penalty
- Check account balance and transfer funds in and out of your account online

Now enjoy the added convenience of checking your account balance and transferring funds through your cellphone with CitiMobile Banking.

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In celebration of Savings Contributions Week
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"PAG ALERTO, MALAYO SA PELIGRO"

National Disaster Consciousness Month

JULY 2009



NDRRMC Secretary and NDRRMC Chair Roberto "Bobby" Fontana at the July 2009 National Disaster Consciousness Month (NDCM) event.

Executive Order No. 137 declares every month of July as the National Disaster Consciousness Month (NDCM).

The Philippines is located within the Pacific Ring of Fire. It has geo-physical, hydro-meteorological, and conflict-prone hazards. These factors are further aggravated by the conditions brought about by the current socio-political and economic systems at play.

Among the most common disasters that hit the country are typhoons, flooding, volcanoes, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides and mud flows, and tsunamis. And, for every time that such calamities strike, the toll remains high for the loss of life, properties and opportunities.

While the country has maintained a level of vigilance and has developed appropriate response mechanisms to cope with the dangers of natural and human-induced disasters, the Philippines still needs to prepare for calamity change impact.

In recent years, we can easily recall the disaster-prone disasters that devastated our country, among them are the following:

People will never forget the "July 1990 Riken Earthquake" reaching up to the magnitude of 7.7 in the Richter Scale which struck Central and Northern Luzon. This earthquake was considered as the most devastating disaster to hit the country in terms of damage which was pegged at PNP15.25 billion with 1,854 casualties and affecting 1.25 million Filipinos.

The catastrophic eruption of Mount Pinatubo in 1991 displaced families and caused 800 deaths and destroyed an estimated PNP5.02 billion worth of properties. In the same year, we also saw the intense Luzon Tragedy wherein the eastern mark of Basilan island (Mindanao) hit 13 municipalities in the Provinces of Lanao and Eastern Samar, and the Cities of Zamboanga and Davao. Two major cities claimed 5,101 lives and damaged PNP 8.12 million worth of properties. Landslides also devastated Cherry Pine Subdivision in Antipolo in August 1998 wherein 54 lives were lost. In July 2003, a similar tragedy in Payson also took away 120 lives.

Southwest Leyte was devastated by two major tsunamis. In December 2003, three successive tsunamis hit the towns of San Francisco and San Francisco. This disaster caused 144 lives and brought damage to PNP20 million worth of properties. The shocking loss of lives tested in mind and spirit the people who were brought to the Bantayan Islands in San Francisco. The site reveals a portion of the yearly economic loss suffered and as a result, PNP 3.21 billion, sufficient while infrastructure and agriculture damages were placed at PNP14.8 billion.

CMR also left its hit on the Philippines when it hit the country. This phenomenon affected 15 regions and the estimated cost of damage to agriculture pegged at PNP8.45 billion and directly affected 225,000 families.

Typhoons have no season and no season: Complete flooding may be long and may even be followed by the potential characteristics and increasing severity of these types of disasters. Our readiness as a nation has been tried and tested. But this should not only be our only source of disaster preparedness, but also the source of disaster development will remain grounded by our natural vulnerability. Although these disasters events may be inevitable in nature, there are practical solutions that we can do to avoid or minimize the calamity damage. This is the overall thrust for the annual observance of the NDCM.

As the highest policy-making and coordinating body for disaster management, the National Disaster Counciling Council (NDC) releases authority focused on carrying out the government's disaster efforts and programs, or disaster response, preparedness, response and rehabilitation. The Council is composed of twenty department/agency heads with the Secretary of National Defense, General E. Rios as its Chairman. The NDCM serves as an advisory body on disaster management programs, disaster operations and rehabilitation efforts undertaken by the government and other stakeholders. The Administrator of the Office of Civil Defense, Major General Glenn J. Bantayan, AFP Staff-1, is the NDCM Executive Officer and Coordinator.

To make the observance of this year's NDCM more meaningful, the NDCM intends to highlight to the media activities that aim to increase awareness on the significance of building community resilience to disasters and strengthening local capacities for effective emergency response.

On July 8, a nationwide risk drill activity will be held through the conduct of **Demonstration of Response Capabilities** of the National Capital Region (NCR). The Metro Manila Region will grace this event along with National Secretary Region as guest of honor and speaker. DCD regional offices will also have their respective risk drill ceremony on July 8.

Since typhoons pose one of the biggest threat to communities especially those highly populated subdivisions such as schools, hospitals, and business establishments, a **Nationwide Simultaneous Earthquake Drill** will be conducted on July 11 by DCD in partnership with PHIVOLCS.

Another highlight of the NDCM is the **Signing of Memorandum of Agreements** between NDCM and respective groups such as Office of Muslim Affairs (OMA), Government of Foreign Affairs International Trade Center for Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Event Preparedness, Regional Emergency Assistance Communications Team (REACT), Association of Chambers and Government Leaders (ACGL), Private Sector Disaster Management Network (PSDMN), and Civil Defense Action Group (CDAG) on July 31. This is in keeping with the NDCM's Four-Prong Plan of Action for Disaster Preparedness in strengthening partnerships with the private sector and donor organizations.

The highlight of the NDCM is the **National Based KALAHEDE (Kalamitang Alamang Lahat, Matatagapang Galing at Responsabilidad) Signing Ceremony** which is the NDCM's mission statement in knowledge, understanding Disaster Coordinating Councils, private or volunteer organizations, individuals, and government emergency responders that are involved in the implementation of disaster management programs and projects.

For details of the NDCM activities, call the Office of Civil Defense at 812-0441, 812-0442, 812-2424 and 812-2001 or 84 or visit www.ndcm.gov.ph.

Snapshot of the NDCM Calendar of Activities '09

| Date | Activity | Agency of Primary Responsibility | Partner Agencies |
|------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| July 1 | 1st Media Presentation of NDCM | PA | OC |
| July 4 | 3rd Edition of DPM SEC-Info Mass Media with DCD and PHIVOLCS | PA | OC-49 & PHIVOLCS |
| July 5 | Risk Of Ceremony - Demonstration of Response Capabilities of NCR | OC | OC-49 with DCD as Guest of Honor & Speaker Metro Manila Region |
| July 6 | Expression of NDCM Advocacy after Monday Flag Raising Ceremony in all DCD Regional Offices Nationwide Drawing Contest (Theme: "Save Hospital/ Hospitals of AHEAD Safe Our Children") Basic Rescue Equipment (BRP) | OCORCA DCE-DM DCE-DM DCE-DM | DCE-DM and the respective Regional Offices PAGASA, PHIVOLCS & BRP |
| July 10 | Film Screening of the Tales of Disaster and Cultural Preservation/Save Raising Kalamang DRR Skills Symposia Forum on Disaster Mitigation | OCORCA DCE-DM DCE-DM | PAGASA, PHIVOLCS & BRP |
| 2nd week of July | 2nd Edition of DPM SEC-Info Basic Media with PAGASA and DPM | PA | PAGASA & DPM |
| July 11 | General Workshop on Damage Assessment and Search Analysis (GASAA) | OCORCA | OCORCA |
| July 12 | Fire and Life Support Resource Options Signing of Response Support Preparedness Plan Signing of Response on-Going Management | OCORCA OCORCA OCORCA | PHIVOLCS & DCD PHIVOLCS & DCD |
| July 13 | Agreement on Simultaneous Earthquake Drill | PA | OCORCA |
| July 14 | 3rd Edition of DPM SEC-Info Mass Media with PHIVOLCS and DPM | PA | OCORCA |
| July 15 | MOA Signing to Strengthen Partnership with the Private Sector and Donor Organizations Poster Making and Essay Writing Contest | OCORCA | OCORCA & Private Sector OCORCA |
| July 16 | DRR Orientation/Workshop Exhibition on DRR Survival Techniques by Elementary and High School Students | OCORCA OCORCA | OCORCA |
| July 17 | NGAAR Capability Demonstration | OCORCA | OCORCA |
| July 18 | Learning of Guidelines on Monitoring DRR in Sub-National Level | OCORCA | OCORCA |
| July 19 | Global FALNAG Network Meeting/Conferences in Monitoring Process | OCORCA | OCORCA |

'P500-M demand broke automated poll deal'

The deal, then by making "impossible demands," Duterte was trying the government for its defiance against a lawsuit to let Duterte Smartmatic in Singapore.

"Smartmatic is a highly sophisticated business. Smartmatic's bid is already rejected (by the Senate). You are not supposed to do this, it's illegal. You cannot just give P500 million (without proof) to someone. Why will you do that?" Lorenson said.

"Smartmatic cannot cough up a billion pesos before they can be implemented. It becomes more things could happen. I wouldn't ask for something like that even if I was greedy."



MANILA PHOTOGRAPHS: Jose Juan Pardo, Juan Antonio, Jose Maria Arzobispo, president of the Information Management Inc., arrive at the meeting on Tuesday to sign a deal. The deal is for the government to pay Smartmatic for its services.

Power of the purse denied
Lorenson said that Duterte had not been given the "unlimited" money to pay Smartmatic.

The lawmakers and Duterte had given in to almost all of Duterte's demands, except when he asked that he be given the "unlimited" money to pay Smartmatic for its services.

No formal withdrawal
Constitutionally, Duterte has declared his resignation from the Senate. Duterte has not yet made a formal withdrawal.

Administration chaos
The Senate has been in chaos since Duterte's resignation. The Senate has been in chaos since Duterte's resignation.

Malacañang plays it cool but senators hopping mad

Malacañang under the post-qualification procedure to get the next lowest ranked bid used as a second choice.

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Comelec options proposed
It is not to continue with poll commissioning, Duterte said.

Conversion table
Duterte said that the government could not do so.

Open election system
Duterte said that the government could not do so.

TIM execs fear Smartmatic has too much power

Commissioner on Elections (Comelec) would have paid the president P2.25 billion for the loss of goods and purchase of services.

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Comelec: Iron out differences by Friday

PT2.2 billion deal and make decisions. She refused to sign the deal.

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PT2.2 billion deal and make decisions. She refused to sign the deal.

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PT2.2 billion deal and make decisions. She refused to sign the deal.

Rally serving 'eviction notice' on GMA gets evicted instead

By Jonnelyn L. Andale

DOZEN OF YOUNG DEMOCRATS who attempted to serve President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo an abstract "eviction notice" were also evicted from the Manila Convention Center in Manila.

A pro-administration group, however, was allowed to hold a rally in a nearby area.

The anti-administration group's defiance of the intervention of the Philippine Employment, Labor, and Welfare Department (DOLE) and the Philippine Security Group (PSG) and the police, preventing them from holding a lightning rally at the

12 Level Street just off the EDSA corridor.

The group, consisting about 100, planned to hold a rally at 8 p.m. at the nearby St. Jude Church followed by a press briefing at the Philippine Nationalist Party (PNP) headquarters.

The group's "Goodbye Gloria" campaign had both rally and press briefing. However, when the PNP had received three subpoenas against allowing them to hold their activities.

In a statement, the PNP said it was making the most of a very busy week in the run-up to President Arroyo's reelection bid.

"We'll close this week on

our before 100 hours is scheduled to begin the election campaign," it is a Constitution which allows, through law, for Congress, must be available to the public in order to power the president.

The group's "Goodbye Gloria" campaign organizers, Unst

Unstoppable, was quoted in the statement as saying it was holding the rally with a few hundred people that Arroyo and her son-in-law, Juan Ponce Enrile, would not be able to control.

The rally group may also be a group of protesters.

with groups who are just trying to achieve freedom for the oppressed, and who are also aware that they can't make it without the support of the people.

While the PNP and the police at the time, the UNSTOPPABLE group, they showed the PSG's power to stage their lightning rally at the center of 12 Level Street and Congress. Agapio, however, said Macapagal-Arroyo.

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INQUIRER *Northern Luzon*

Vizcaya town gets taste of good governance

By Melvin Guezon
Santa Fe, Nueva Vizcaya

COURLE SALVADOR SOLIVAN, 37, and Rowena Riosale, 29, were relieved as they walked out of the municipal hall of Santa Fe, Nueva Vizcaya, on Wednesday afternoon.

The beide, an even-numbered Filipino worker who came home to prepare for her wedding, had wondered how long it would take to process and secure all requirements before they could be issued a marriage license. Thanks to their delight, they finished all requirements in just two hours after entering the civil registrar's office.

The couple is among hundreds who have enjoyed the benefits of what has been deemed a much-improved system of government service in Santa Fe, the mountainous gateway to Cagayan Valley.

A "quick response" practice is embedded in the town's Citizens Charter program, which outlines guidelines on how municipal employees must respond to the needs of the people, especially those who go to the town hall for various reasons.

"The charter mandates that a clerk should not make idle time in serving the public for more than 15 minutes. In some of the offices, we require that under military circumstances, a clerk should have been able to accomplish his purpose in five office visits at best," says Mayor Rowena Riosale.

The Citizens Charter is one of the pillars of the town's vision to spread the principle of people participation in governance. But these efforts, Guezon says, should not be seen as the "Champions of Good Governance" by Mayor Riosale, a movement promoting transparency, social accountability, people empowerment and increased reliance on governance.

The charter is one of the products of Guezon's style of leadership, which stresses on consultation and dialogue with business leaders, officials and employees, and members of nongovernment and religious groups, schools and other sectors.

Many of these initiatives, they recognize that it is not called "SMART"—Streamlining more of government time being up the air. In Santa Fe, Collaboration for Lasting Progress among the People—which means not only on how the municipality can help improve the lives of residents.

Cruzado

The road to reform began in 2004, when Guezon was first elected mayor. Armed with a progressive vision "inspired by the politics of governance" and "highly positive consulting and cooperation," Guezon tackled his first challenge: How to make the municipality and its various companies in the service of residents.

"We had difficulty initiating change because of political reasons. Naturally people resist change because for them, it is a painful process," says Guezon, a retired Army captain who joined municipal government in 2004 after 11 years of military service.

Besides, he was fighting an age-old practice, a conflict between traditional two-tiered system of governance—one that served around duties and business as opposed to one anchored on people's consultation and participation.

Municipal employees, who were usually supporters of Guezon's political track, resisted his program. "The bureaucracy could not use less about work output, the mayor says.

Guezon says many employees, especially those in permanent posts, were content on waiting for work to fall on their laps, moving on to how much they could accomplish for the day. After all, they get their salaries on pay day. In a small, remote town.

In 2007, the municipal government set up a performance management system (PMS) to monitor the work of each employee and to serve as an accurate basis for promotions and rewards.

Better incentives

Inspired by the prospects of better incentives, Guezon says employees were given tasks as an opportunity to earn productivity points. The miles and kilometers of a planned route were an incentive bonus, says Edgar Delosano, 61, municipal human resources officer.

"Nobody wants to stay idle. He or she must always have something to do, otherwise, he or she will lose enough productivity points for that day," Delosano says.

The points are accumulated and at the end of the month, the employee with the most number of points are the best performing employees of the Month Award, receiving a cash incentive and a plaque of recognition.

The rewards got bigger for the year-end awards, says Riosale. Guezon, an education officer.

Department heads were also among the subjects of Guezon's mission to start a governance shift in the local government, encouraging a "join-in-employee" culture to be living and performing like managers.



THE MUNICIPAL government of Santa Fe in Nueva Vizcaya poses the results of its citizens on top of its improvement.

"Our town
gov't should
also be
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250,000 names purged from voters' list

26,000 new voters added
to Negroes voting population

By Carla F. Gerson
Imperial College

NACOLEO CITY—THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS IN Negros Occidental has deleted at least 255,000 names from a list of voters in the province for two reasons—failure to vote in two successive elections and death.

Inside Sources, Meggan O'Connell reports, said election inspectors told the Ontario provincial office started paying the contract fees in December 2009 to March 2010.

Isaacs told the Committee her description of 200,000 victims who did not vote is not a national election and removed from the list. A 200,000-vote margin already dead.

However, Jansz said he expected more money to be returned, but the bid by the state for repatriation of certain funds on Oct. 11, 1994, was \$2.5 million.

Members

The number of new users that registered reached 26,073, indicating Nigeria's

But so the Committee was kept busy paying the tax of course, some elections off hand were held over a number of months.

Collegeville

Some Canadian officials in Western Europe said they would seek the relief of Danish Jews. Gosselin, regional director, even alleged lapses in the transfer of funds. Despite Canadian protestation, election supervisors

Trucks could be used under protected election efforts in the region were studying drivers to meet Indian business heavy Gov. who employees were downgraded by the sudden transfer of Mani Hattaraya, the new Baidya City Council lived in Baidya City.

According to Gannett, the elections officers felt downcast and flustered about what happened to Wikat-gwa and O'Flanagan's team.

Summary

Assess what issues did not align with him and illustrate the changes of partnership against Malaysia before commencing Malaysia's transfer.

[illegible]

IM unlicensed guns target of amnesty

CAMP VICENTE LEO, LORCA—The national police will start a gun amnesty program

The month until October is to reduce the number of seals stranded because of the storm, which was estimated to be a least a million dead.

Chief Sgt. Pauline Stoddard, Colchester police regional director, told a constituent Monday that the gun amnesty program was part of a much larger effort by the DRD to "draw out" guns and tanks to "lessen gun-related [harmful] incidents in the country."

More than a million wild geese are shot in the state. Half of those, police say, are in the hands of crony owners and individuals who

Police, Estrada said, will visit gun holders to help renew their gun licenses or collect unlicensed weapons for turnover to the Philippine National Police Firearms and Explosives Division.

reports of trials on illegal gun factories and keepers of military weapons.

The two were charged with illegal possession of firearms and ammunition.

The ruling comes less than a month after a lawsuit filed by Judge Marcelo V. Chiariotti of San Pablo City's Regional Trial Court.

The end yielded a 9 mm pit, suggesting, for example, 12 seconds of 9 mm ballistics, is in place after 50 seconds of accumulation by formula, a 40 cm pit and two other pits of similar size. Machine Case and Bufile T. Michael B., to which Southern Insects

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THE U.S. BUREAU OF THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS is seeking a highly motivated individual to join its staff. The position is for a full-time, permanent position. The successful candidate will be responsible for the design, construction, and maintenance of the Corps' water control facilities. The position is located in the Corps' Washington, D.C. headquarters. The successful candidate will be required to travel frequently to various Corps projects throughout the United States. The position is open to U.S. citizens and is a career position. For consideration, please submit your resume and cover letter to the Human Resources Office, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Alexandria, VA 22304. Equal Opportunity Employer.

He stated the major investment investment infrastructure is technology, time and responsibility. But an unexpected factor may prove critical: the talent or, as he termed it, "know-how" that he and the team have selected for the job. "It may take 18 to 24 months to get the team together," says Dr. Johnson, director, manager of the OSHA's health and safety department, and the facility will be used to observe repeat workers and OSHA employees who choose to be retrained in the future. **Ricki Crenshaw, Inport**

• CHAMPAIGN CITY

Cartage volume drops

The GTY government has, however, delayed a large volume of garbage from 12 to 27 tons. Angelito Clemente, city-division and sanitation-services officer, also faulted the incinerator as the recovery facilities that were put up in emergency in the city. Fourteen of 30 incinerators in the city have such facilities. Six more incinerators will have the facilities by the end of the year, he said.

He said the city needs to bring down its average daily gas usage by 75 tons.

● **FLORIDA CITY**

Dealing with the experts

The City government has approved plans to hire 100 new employees to help with the city's health department. The new hires will be in the areas of public health, environmental health, and occupational health. The city health department is currently facing a shortage of staff due to the loss of several employees to other agencies. The new hires will help to fill these positions and ensure that the city's health department is able to provide the highest quality of service to the community.

The city government will begin the vaccination of college-bound youngsters, starting with schools for high school seniors, to prevent the spread of the virus.

Further work is required to determine the extent to which the findings of this study can be generalised to other populations.

**MANILA WATER SERVICE
UPGRADE IN MANDALUYONG CITY,
PASIG CITY AND QUEZON CITY**

Manila Water will undertake service improvement projects which will ensure temporary water supply interruption in the following portions of Mandaluyong, Pasig and Quezon City:
Schedule: 12:01 A.M. to 4:00 A.M., Thursday, July 2, 2009.
Affected areas:
Mandaluyong City: Barangays Rufina/Rubio, Barangays Bayk, Barangays Iba, Barangays Itaba, Barangays Dava, Matandang Highway Hills and Mawaway
Pasig City: Valle Verde 4, Ortigas Center, Maricao Avenue, Barangays (Gloria and Orenda)
Quezon City: Cordillera Subdivision and Aranda Subdivision
 Manila Water Company is advising all residents of the said areas to store enough water to supply their needs during the interruption period.

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The image contains the official seal of the Supreme Court of the Philippines at the top center. Below the seal, the text reads: "Republic of the Philippines", "Supreme Court", and "Manila". A large, bold heading "ANNOUNCEMENT" is centered below this. The text continues: "The Supreme Court of the Philippines announces the opening of applications for the 2009-2010 JUDICIAL YEAR ADMINISTRATION." This is followed by a list of three requirements for applicants: 1. A minimum of 18 years old, at least 40 years of age, and for 10 years or more, a judge of a lower court or engaged in the practice of law in the Philippines (Art. VIII, Sec. 7 of the Constitution, amended by Sec. 3 of PD No. 803 as amended by PD. No. 842). 2. Be of proven competence, integrity, probity and integrity; and 3. Possess a track record as an administrator or an executive. Below the list, it states: "In case of recommendation, the recommendation shall conform with the recommendation. Applications/considerations must be submitted NOT LATER THAN JULY 15, 2009 at 12:00pm." The name and title of the official, "JUDGE MA. LUISA D. VILLARAMA, Clerk of Court," are printed. At the bottom, the name "MA. LUISA D. VILLARAMA" is written in a stylized font, with "Clerk of Court" underneath. The date "July 1, 2009." is at the bottom left.

[illegible]

The WORLD

Editor Lawrence B. Quinsig

Child survives Yemeni passenger jet crash

MOHOCKING—A YEMENI AIRBUS A330-300 JET CARRYING 153 people crashed into rough seas as it came into land in the Comoros islands early Tuesday but rescuers plucked a child survivor from the water, officials said.

It was the second time in less than a month that an Airbus jet crashed into the ocean. This time French authorities said the Yemeni carrier had been under surveillance and that problems had been reported with the jet. Evacuated wreckage from the crash site after flight were sent

and to the Indian Ocean near the island of Anjouan, said Moroccan, aviation officials said.

The child among the 142 passengers and 11 crew on Flight 626 was rescued after a rescue at the scene. Moroccan, said the boy lived, and 400

boarded the child was

ing to be in land where an ambulance wanted to take the child to hospital.

Abdullah Ibrahim, a senior official for the Comoros Red Crescent, confirmed that the child was alive and added that local fishermen had also found wreckage, passengers' hand luggage and other effects.

In France, Yemen's deputy managing director for operations Mohammed Al-Hamoudi said three individuals also had been rescued.

The long-grading Flight 626 had crashed in Port Louis

Morocco and made stops in Mauritania, Senegal and Djibouti before heading to Morocco.

Yemeni authorities said aircraft control tower had contact with the jet just before it was due to land and had notified airport director Abdulrahman al-Tajer.

French civil aviation officials said 56 passengers were French. There could be others, said the rescue, officials said. French navy ships and planes from its nearby Indian Ocean territory to help in the rescue. AFP



A YEMENIA jet lands in the Indian Ocean. (AP Photo/Reuters)



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IN THIS ISSUE

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- **Pittel transforms into holding firm** /D3

BUSINESS

Marked by the 10th Philippine Business and Global Trade Fair, the Inquirer's 10th Jubilee is held in Cebu, the birthplace of Philippine business.



PLDT taps Meralco for new venture

Synergy in broadband-over-powerline project

By Amy Barrios and Doni Durbin

MANILA ELECTRIC CO. WILL SOON PILOT/TEST IN MALABON City a broadband-over-powerline (BPL) project, which if proven commercially viable, is a potential new cash cow for the country's biggest power retailer.

Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT) and Meralco's partnership will start with a pilot project in Malabon City, where PLDT, which is among the many companies in the country and the internet giant, would begin tests.

He added that they were power line is moving in Malabon by the last third of the year but will go up sharply since the group agreed today a 20 percent stake in the company from the Lapasan in P90 a share. As of yesterday, Meralco closed at P113 a share.

First is the vehicle used by the PLDT

group to take up the 20 percent stake will be the Lapasan in Malabon. On top of this, the PLDT broadband over powerline (BPL) project, which is still under the official Metro Pacific Investments Corp.

The BPL project, which is potentially provide cheaper high-speed Internet to millions of households, was believed to be the PLDT group's biggest investment in the country, especially because another potential project that had been in the works, San Miguel Corp., was also seen as having a highly competitive Internet business.

"But they won't do the same what to go. They would like to see for me as a power line," Meralco said.

In an interview with the Inquirer, Meralco's president and chief information officer of Meralco, said the company expected to "start some kind of a pilot of pilot equipment in August" for the BPL project.

Lapasan said the BPL project was still in the "very early stage" through Malabon, for its part, has already conducted an inspection of the power facilities in Malabon.

He declared that the BPL project was part of an ongoing project called "Smart Grid." "BPL is a just a means, a vehicle of the whole project," he said.

He explained that the main goal project would allow utilities like Meralco to be able to remotely monitor all the facilities on the field and check transformers and maintain lines with the use of power lines.

Agriculture growth seen slowing to 1.5-2% in Q2

By Rex T. Ocampo

PHILIPPINE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION in the second quarter of the year is expected to post slower growth than a year ago.

"We are expecting the growth to slow down," said the Agriculture Secretary Arlene Yap, who said that the growth in the second quarter of the year is expected to be around 1.5 to 2 percent.

Yap said that the growth in the second quarter of the year is expected to be around 1.5 to 2 percent. She said that the growth in the second quarter of the year is expected to be around 1.5 to 2 percent.

High input costs and lack of competitiveness against cheaper commodity imports is also a major problem in some sectors such as rice, corn, and cotton, among others.

In the first quarter, agriculture grew by only 1.6 percent compared with 3.8 percent in the same period last year.

But the whole of 2009, the department is aiming for a 2 percent growth in agriculture production despite early season and a late start in the second quarter.

But beyond this year's growth, the agriculture department has set a goal to be self-sufficient in various products, including

livestock, milk and coffee. It and the recent trip to Brazil by agriculture officials and private agribusiness leaders would help the country achieve this target "in the years."

"We and the government must be able to make sure that when we implement the EAP, the growth in agriculture will be around 2 percent," he said.

He said that the government is aiming for a 2 percent growth in agriculture production despite early season and a late start in the second quarter.

Yap said that the government is aiming for a 2 percent growth in agriculture production despite early season and a late start in the second quarter.

GCASH STRENGTHENS XOOM.COM's REMITTANCE TECHNOLOGY AND NETWORK OF OUTLETS



XOOM Corp. President & CEO John Ranao and GCash President Riza Manzano-Gale looking at XOOM.COM.

The customers of XOOM.COM, the fastest growing online money transfer company, now have access to an expanded network of remittance outlets that spans across the Philippines as it partners with GCash Inc. (GCASH), the wholly-owned mobile commerce subsidiary.

"We have constantly worked hard to expand our money transfer services around the world. We believe that this strategic partnership with GCASH helps us achieve this goal by increasing our reach in the Philippines," said XOOM Corporation President and CEO John Ranao.

XOOM.COM offers a fast, convenient and safe way of sending money that allows Filipinos living and working abroad to reach through the web to family, friends and businesses worldwide.

"We are indeed excited with this partnership. Not only do we expand our network but we also bridge more consumers to the new age of remittance technology and mobile commerce. We believe that the GCASH-XOOM.COM partnership will pave the way for better remittance experience to our customers," said XOOM Corporation Regional VP Gene Gentera.

This partnership further revolutionizes XOOM.COM's superior technology in remittance as it incorporates GCash's mobile commerce platform, GCASH, by offering GCASH outlets present even in the remotest areas nationwide. XOOM.COM significantly increased its pay-out locations to NOW over 5,000 throughout the Philippines.

"I am thrilled about this partnership as we are able to achieve tandem objectives. GCASH is able to expand its consumer access worldwide as our customers can now send their money online via XOOM.COM with the same speed, affordability, convenience and security that our customers experience through the mobile phone or traditional over the counter channels. On the other hand, GCASH is able to massively expand XOOM.COM's pay-out locations in the Philippines to serve common customers," said GCash President Riza Manzano-Gale.

XOOM.COM and GCASH Make Remittance Simple



With the GCASH-XOOM.COM partnership, sending money is simple. Visit XOOM.COM and enter the information about the sender and receiver, like your U.S. bank account, credit card or your GCASH account number.

After the money is received, all you need to do is give the reference number to your friends or relatives who will receive the money. Picking up your remittance through a GCASH-BEMT outlet is also more secure and just a simple step.

1) Visit the nearest GCASH-BEMT outlet.
2) Provide your XOOM.COM reference number together with our ID card ID.
3) Claim your remittance instantly!

For more information, call any of our 24/7 helpline numbers: (888) 888-8888 or visit us online at www.xoom.com or www.gcash.com.ph.



GCash President Riza Manzano-Gale, XOOM Corp. President John Ranao, and XOOM Corp. Regional VP Gene Gentera (left to right) standing together.

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T-bills rise as ballooning budget gap scares market

BSP: No price contraction in '09

INFLATION MAY BE SLOWING DOWN, and will likely hit bottom in the third quarter, but that does not mean a contraction of consumer prices will swing this year as some have predicted, according to a Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) official.

Citing recent bank estimates, BSP Assistant Governor Cyl Asuncion said inflation would likely register its slowest rate in August, not only because of oil demand for goods and services but also because of base effects.

"Our estimate shows that inflation will only slow down further, but consumer prices will not contract," Asuncion said.

Consumer prices posted in September rose to a 27-year high of 12.8 percent due to surge in the cost of oil. Analysts say it will be nearly impossible for any spike in

consumer prices in August this year to top that of the same month last year.

In order to reach the projection of only a temporary inflation, that year-over-year inflation, or the rate of increase in consumer prices, would be below zero percent in the third quarter. But also said a sharp inflation would not necessarily translate negative growth in prices.

The BSP has often said projection that inflation in June slowed down further to a range of 1.2 to 1.5 percent from 4.5 percent in May. The second inflation figure will be announced on July 7.

For the full year, the BSP expects inflation to average at 3.4 percent, well within the government's official target of between 3.5 and 4.5 percent. The BSP expects inflation to be slower in the third quarter because it is skewed negatively by the fourth.

Michelle V. Reyes

By Michelle V. Reyes

THE GOVERNMENT'S 2011-2012 budget deficit has dampened the economic market's confidence on the country's fiscal condition, which is why investor pessimism on Treasury bills and bonds have been on the rise despite growing liquidity in the economy.

According to First Metro Securities Corp. (FMSC) and the University of the Philippines (UP), the effect of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas to boost liquidity in the system by lowering key policy rates is not helping bring down cost of the government's loanable funds.

In its debt offerings over the past weeks, the Bureau of the Treasury had been forced to partially or fully reject bids of 30-day and bonds because of the intense rates being sought by the market, which officials said was already high.

When the BSP slashes its key policy

rates, this encourages banks to withdraw some of their deposits in the central bank. Theoretically, funds pulled out from the central bank are used either for lending or selling fixed investment in government securities.

But according to the Market Call's latest issue—a monthly publication jointly undertaken by FBEC (SAB)—although the domestic market is ready to sink, it continues to ask for higher yields from government securities because of the increased risk in the government's budget deficit.

The government issued its debt offering for the year to P250 billion, from its earlier P150 billion, because of expected shortfalls in tax collection. But year's deficit will be a drag, not from last year's P60 billion.

"The Bureau of Treasury expects the yields from government securities

to go down because of the 0.25 percent policy rate cut done by the BSP last May 20. However, the opposite was observed in the market. Yields were generally higher compared to the month of April," according to Market Call.

The publication also said most of private firms to sell corporate bonds compared with the government effort to increase from the demand of capital markets. It noted that there were about P32 billion worth of corporate bonds recently floated.

But in the mean while the government has decided to focus on the foreign capital market. Market call said the plan to issue Treasury bills, or short maturity bonds in the domestic bond market, was a minor move, because the government would now have more for its borrowing.

The foreign capital market will prove to be more lucrative than the domestic one, Market Call said.

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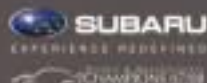


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ABSTRACT



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